

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYUSH
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-18
ANSWERED ON 02/02/2023

Modernisation of AYUSH Medicines

18: SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

SHRI SUDHAKAR TUKARAM SHRANGARE:

SHRI DILIP SAIKIA:

SHRI RANJEETSINGH NAIK NIMBALKAR:

SHRI SHIVAKUMAR C. UDASI:

SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:

Will the Minister of Ayush be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any plan to modernize AYUSH medicines by integrating it with global standards in India as well as across the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the concrete steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to further strengthen and expand India's healthcare delivery system, AYUSH Insurance coverage, research and development along with policy formulation system?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF AYUSH
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

(a) and (b) Yes.

- i. The Government has established Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy under the Ministry of Ayush, with the mandate to

develop Pharmacopoeial standards for Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy.

- ii. The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) have been requested to adopt the Ayush Pharmacopoeias, i.e. Ayurvedic Pharmacopoeia of India (API), Unani Pharmacopoeia of India (UPI), Siddha Pharmacopoeia of India (SPI), and Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia of India (HPI) in the BIMSTEC countries. Ministry of Ayush has signed 24 Country to Country Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) for cooperation in the field of traditional medicine. One of the activities of the MoU is to get recognition of Ayush Pharmacopoeias on the mutual basis in the respective countries. Further, the Ministry of Ayush and the United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP), USA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for cooperation in the field of Traditional medicine and to collaborate in the identification, development, and dissemination of science-based standards in this field at an international level.
- iii. The Government of India supported WHO in publishing four benchmark documents on training and practice of the Ayurveda & Unani system and for developing terminology documents in Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha. The Government of India also supported WHO for the development of Traditional Medicine Module 2 of the International Classification of Diseases 11 (ICD-11).
- iv. AYUSH verticals have been established under the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for developing and publishing Indian standards for respective systems.
- v. The Ministry of Home Affairs vide circular no. 584 dated 27.07.2023 introduced a new Visa Regime under chapter 11A i.e. Ayush (AY) visa for foreigners visiting India for treatment under Ayush systems/ Indian systems of medicine and also to provide e-Ayush visa and e-Ayush Attendant visa to such foreigners.

(c)

- i. The Government of India has adopted a strategy of co-location of Ayush facilities at Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) and District Hospitals (DHs) under the National Ayush Mission (NAM). The Ministry

- of Ayush is implementing the operationalisation of 12,500 Ayush Health and Wellness Centres (AHWCs) under Ayushman Bharat as a component of NAM. The Government has also integrated Ayush in national programs like the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases & Stroke (NPCDCS), and Reproductive and Child Health (RCH).
- ii. Ayush services are also integrated into the health infrastructure of other Ministries like Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Railways, Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) hospitals & dispensaries under the Ministry of Labour & Employment.
 - iii. The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) (Health Insurance) Regulations, 2016 provide coverage for one or more systems covered under 'AYUSH treatment'.
 - iv. The infrastructure and capability of Ayush research councils have been strengthened in order to improve the quality of research. Further, Ministry of Ayush has constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ayush along with the Secretaries of Department of Science and Technology (DST), Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Department of Commerce (DoC) and Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF & CC) for promoting collaboration in Ayush research among scientific bodies.
 - v. The Ministry of Ayush has also collaborated with reputed international organisations like- The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), London, UK, Frankfurt Innovation Center (FIZ), Germany, etc. to undertake research in Ayush systems.
